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SENATE BILL 405

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

Cisco McSorley

AN ACT

RELATING TO EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION; CREATING THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE, LIBERTY AND PEACE; PROVIDING POWERS AND DUTIES; CREATING THE COMMISSION OF PEACE EDUCATION AND TRAINING; CREATING THE COMMISSION OF PEACE ACTIVITIES; CREATING THE COMMISSION OF TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACE; CREATING THE COMMISSION OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND NONVIOLENT CONFLICT RESOLUTION; CREATING THE CITIZENS PEACE ADVISORY COUNCIL; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the "Office of Justice, Liberty and Peace Act".

Section 2. PURPOSE.--The purpose of the Office of Justice, Liberty and Peace Act is to establish an office dedicated to peacemaking and the study of conditions that are

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1 conducive to peace.

2 Section 3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Office of
3 Justice, Liberty and Peace Act:

4 A. "chief" means the chief of justice, liberty and
5 peace;

6 B. "council" means the citizens peace advisory
7 council; and

8 C. "office" means the office of justice, liberty
9 and peace.

10 Section 4. OFFICE ESTABLISHED.--The "office of justice,
11 liberty and peace" is created. The office shall be
12 administratively attached to the department of finance and
13 administration. For purposes of this section, the term
14 "administratively attached" means the same as specified in
15 Section 9-1-7 NMSA 1978.

16 Section 5. CHIEF OF PEACE--APPOINTMENT.--

17 A. The administrative head of the office is the
18 "chief of justice, liberty and peace", who shall be appointed
19 by the governor with the consent of the senate.

20 B. The chief shall serve and have all the duties,
21 responsibilities and authority of that office during the period
22 of time prior to final action by the senate confirming or
23 rejecting the appointment.

24 Section 6. CHIEF--GENERAL DUTIES.--

25 A. The chief is responsible to the governor for the

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1 operation of the office. It is the chief's duty to manage all
2 operations of the office and to administer and enforce the laws
3 with which the chief is charged.

4 B. The chief shall:

5 (1) analyze existing policies and develop new
6 approaches for dealing with societal issues, including:

7 (a) spouse abuse, child abuse and
8 mistreatment of the elderly;

9 (b) drug and alcohol abuse;

10 (c) crime, punishment and
11 rehabilitation;

12 (d) violence against animals;

13 (e) gun-related violence;

14 (f) school and gang violence;

15 (g) racial or ethnic violence and
16 violence against gays and lesbians; and

17 (h) disputes between the police and
18 community members;

19 (2) make policy recommendations to the
20 attorney general regarding civil rights and labor law;

21 (3) assist in establishing community-based
22 violence prevention programs, including violence prevention
23 counseling and peer mediation in schools;

24 (4) provide for counseling for and advocate on
25 behalf of women victimized by violence;

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1 (5) provide for public education programs and
2 counseling strategies concerning hate crimes; and

3 (6) promote racial and ethnic tolerance.

4 Section 7. CHIEF--HUMAN SECURITY DUTIES.--The chief shall
5 address and offer nonviolent conflict resolution strategies on
6 issues of human security if security is threatened, whether the
7 conflict is:

8 A. based on geographic, religious, ethnic, racial
9 or class concerns;

10 B. derived from economic concerns, including trade
11 or distribution of wealth; or

12 C. initiated through disputes concerning the
13 scarcity of natural resources, food or trade.

14 Section 8. CHIEF--MEDIA DUTIES.--The chief shall:

15 A. seek assistance in the design and implementation
16 of nonviolent policies from media professionals;

17 B. study the role of the media in the escalation
18 and recession of conflict and make findings public; and

19 C. make recommendations to professional media
20 organizations to increase media awareness of peace-building
21 initiatives.

22 Section 9. CHIEF--EDUCATIONAL DUTIES.--The chief shall:

23 A. develop a peace education curriculum, which
24 shall include the study of:

25 (1) the civil rights movement in the United

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1 States and throughout the world with special emphasis on how
2 individual involvement has contributed to advancements in peace
3 and justice; and

4 (2) peace agreements and circumstances in
5 which peaceful intervention has succeeded in stopping conflict;
6 and

7 B. cooperate with the secretary of public education
8 to develop curricula and make curricula available to school
9 districts to facilitate instruction in peaceful conflict
10 resolution and other peace education objectives at elementary
11 and secondary schools.

12 Section 10. PERSONNEL.--The chief shall employ
13 professional and clerical assistance as deemed necessary and
14 shall appoint a:

- 15 A. director of peace education and training;
- 16 B. director of peace activities;
- 17 C. director of technology for peace;
- 18 D. director of peaceful coexistence and nonviolent
19 conflict resolution; and
- 20 E. general counsel.

21 Section 11. COMMISSION OF PEACE EDUCATION AND TRAINING.--

22 A. The "commission of peace education and training"
23 is created in the office, and the administrative head of the
24 commission is the "director of peace education and training".

25 B. The director of peace education and training

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1 shall:

2 (1) in collaboration with the chief, develop a
3 peace education curriculum and supporting materials for
4 distribution to the public education department;

5 (2) provide peace education grants for the
6 creation and expansion of peace studies programs; and

7 (3) create a community peace block grant
8 program to provide grants to nonviolent conflict resolution
9 programs and local peace-building initiatives.

10 Section 12. COMMISSION OF PEACE ACTIVITIES.--

11 A. The "commission of peace activities" is created
12 in the office, and the administrative head of the commission is
13 the "director of peace activities".

14 B. The director of peace activities shall:

15 (1) develop alternatives for the treatment of
16 drug and alcohol abuse;

17 (2) initiate programs and build on existing
18 programs to prevent crime, including community policing and
19 peaceful settlement programs for police and other public safety
20 officers; and

21 (3) develop community-based strategies for
22 celebrating diversity and promoting tolerance.

23 Section 13. COMMISSION OF TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACE.--

24 A. The "commission of technology for peace" is
25 created in the office, and the administrative head of the

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1 commission is the "director of technology for peace".

2 B. The director of technology for peace shall
3 provide grants for the research and development of technology
4 in transportation, communication and energy that:

5 (1) are nonviolent in their application; and

6 (2) encourage the conservation of natural
7 resources to prevent future conflicts stemming from resource
8 scarcity.

9 Section 14. COMMISSION OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND
10 NONVIOLENT CONFLICT RESOLUTION.--

11 A. The "commission of peaceful coexistence and
12 nonviolent conflict resolution" is created in the office, and
13 the administrative head of the commission is the "director of
14 peaceful coexistence and nonviolent conflict resolution".

15 B. The director of peaceful coexistence and
16 nonviolent conflict resolution shall:

17 (1) publish a monthly journal of the office's
18 activities and encourage scholarly participation;

19 (2) gather information on effective community
20 peace-building activities and disseminate the information;

21 (3) research the effect of violence in the
22 media and make the reports annually available to the public;
23 and

24 (4) hold conferences to create awareness of
25 the office's findings.

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1 Section 15. CITIZENS PEACE ADVISORY COUNCIL--CREATION--
2 MEMBERS--RESPONSIBILITIES--COMPENSATION.--

3 A. The "citizens peace advisory council" is created
4 and shall be composed of five ex-officio and eighteen appointed
5 members as follows:

- 6 (1) the chief of peace;
- 7 (2) the director of peace education and
8 training;
- 9 (3) the director of peace activities;
- 10 (4) the director of technology for peace;
- 11 (5) the director of peaceful coexistence and
12 nonviolent conflict resolution;
- 13 (6) four representatives from peace advocacy
14 organizations, who shall be appointed by the chief;
- 15 (7) three representatives from religious or
16 spiritual organizations, who shall be appointed by the chief;
- 17 (8) two representatives from an environmental
18 organization, who shall be appointed by the secretary of
19 energy, minerals and natural resources;
- 20 (9) two representatives from local law
21 enforcement agencies, who shall be appointed by the secretary
22 of public safety;
- 23 (10) one health professional with expertise in
24 behavioral and public health issues, who shall be appointed by
25 the secretary of health;

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1 (11) one representative from an energy
2 conservation organization with expertise in alternative energy
3 use, who shall be appointed by the secretary of energy,
4 minerals and natural resources;

5 (12) two representatives affiliated with a
6 radio or television station or a print publication, appointed
7 by the chief; and

8 (13) three public school educators, appointed
9 by the secretary of public education.

10 B. The council shall select a chairperson, a vice
11 chairperson and other officers as it deems necessary.

12 C. The council shall meet no less than twice
13 annually and may meet more frequently upon the call of the
14 chairperson. The council shall:

15 (1) organize and participate in public
16 dialogues throughout the state;

17 (2) provide assistance and make
18 recommendations to the chief and the governor concerning
19 policies relating to peace and nonviolent conflict resolution;
20 and

21 (3) submit, annually, a report to the chief
22 and the governor reviewing the impact of state peace activities
23 on local governments.

24 D. Council members shall receive per diem and
25 mileage as provided for nonsalaried public officers in the Per

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1 Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no other compensation,
2 perquisite or allowance.

3 Section 16. APPROPRIATION.--Two hundred fifty thousand
4 dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
5 office of peace for expenditure in fiscal year 2005 to carry
6 out the provisions of the Office of Justice, Liberty and Peace
7 Act. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the
8 end of fiscal year 2005 shall not revert to the general fund.

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